



BEN WASHINGTON BAPTIST CHURCH

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Wednesday Noon Bible Study

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SERMON SERIES

“Serving in HD (High Definition)”

PART 2 - Humility — The Posture of a Servant Leader

Key Thought

Servant leadership begins when the leader becomes more concerned about serving the mission and the people than protecting his or her position.

- Humility does not mean believing that you have no value. Biblical humility means understanding your value without needing to prove your importance.

Micah 6:8 - “He has shown you, O man, what is good; And what does the LORD require of you But to do justly, To love mercy, And to walk humbly with your God?”

Definition of Humility

Humility is having an accurate view of yourself in relationship to God and others.

Humility says:

- “I know who I am, but I also know Who made me, Who gifted me, and Who deserves the glory.”

Humility is not:

- Thinking poorly of yourself.
- Pretending that you have no gifts.
- Allowing people to mistreat you.
- Refusing leadership responsibility.
- Lacking confidence.

Humility is:

- Recognizing your dependence upon God.
- Being willing to serve others.
- Remaining teachable.
- Giving others credit.
- Accepting correction.
- Putting the needs of others ahead of personal recognition.
- Understanding that leadership is stewardship rather than ownership.

THE THOUGHT PROCESS OF A HUMBLE LEADER

Philippians 2:3-5

“3 [Let] nothing [be done] through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves. 4 Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others. 5 Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus”

Paul says that if we want to be the best servant leaders we must emulate the **BEST** servant leader and that is **JESUS CHRIST!**

1. Humility Rejects Selfish Ambition

Paul warns about getting trapped in “Selfish Ambition”.

- Sometimes we can do the RIGHT ACTION for the WRONG REASON!

It is possible to:

- Serve because we want recognition.
- Lead because we want control.
- Give because we want acknowledgment.
- Volunteer because we want visibility.
- Help because we want people indebted to us.

2. Humility Values Other People

Paul says - “esteem others better than himself.”

This does not mean everyone else is more gifted, intelligent, or capable. It means we intentionally refuse to make ourselves the center of everything.

Servant leaders ask:

- What do others need?
- How can I help someone else succeed?
- Who needs encouragement?
- Who deserves an opportunity?
- Whose voice has not been heard?

3. Humility Begins in the Mind

Philippians 2:5: - “Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus.”

Before humility becomes an **ACTION**, it must become an **ATTITUDE**.

Jesus did not simply perform humble acts. Jesus possessed a humble mindset.

MY LEADERSHIP MOTTO: “Having a HEART like Jesus!”

THE MODEL OF A HUMBLE LEADER

Philippians 2:6-8

“6 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: 7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: 8 And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.”

Jesus possessed divine authority, yet He willingly humbled Himself.

The passage shows a downward movement:

Position → Surrender → Servanthood → Sacrifice → Obedience

The Son of God...Jesus Christ Himself:

- Had authority but did not exploit it.
- Possessed power but did not use it selfishly.
- Had status but chose servanthood.
- Deserved honor but accepted humiliation.
- Had every right to command but chose obedience.

RELEVANT POINT

Jesus did not lose His authority when He humbled Himself.

That is important for servant leaders.

Humility does not require abandoning leadership.

It changes how leadership is exercised.

A humble leader can still:

- Make difficult decisions.
- Establish boundaries.
- Correct problems.
- Hold people accountable.
- Provide direction.
- Exercise authority.

The difference is that authority is exercised for the good of the people and the glory of God, rather than the **EGO** of the leader.

CLOSING REFLECTION

Humility is not thinking less of yourself; it is refusing to make yourself the center of everything.

The servant leader understands:

- My position is not about me.
- My gifts are not about me.
- My influence is not about me.
- My leadership is not about me.

God gives leaders influence so that they can use that influence to serve others, advance His purposes, and bring glory to Him.

Closing Scripture

1 Peter 5:5–6

“God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble. Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time.”